

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 05069 280834 Z

11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 DPW-01 IO-12 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 AID-20 ACDA-19 GAC-01 RSR-01

/158 W

----- 040155

R 280525 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9257

USDEL FRANCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5069

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: SITREP FOR MARCH 27, 1973

THE FOLLOWING SENT SAIGON FRON CAN THO 27 MAR 72 REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAN THO 0094

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MARR, PINT, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: SITREP FOR MARCH 27, 1973

1. SUMMARY: MILITARY ACTIVITY REMAINED AT A LOWER LEVEL AS THE U. S. ARMY OFFICIALLY CLOSED ITS 14 YEAR ADVISORY EFFORT IN THE DELTA. THE HUNGARIANS RETURNED TO TRI TON. THE VC ARE UPGRADING "LOCAL GOVERNMENTS" IN CA MAU AND THE HOA HAO ARE PREPARING TO CELEBRATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE VC ASSASSINATION OF THEIR FOUNDER. END SUMMARY.

2. SECURITY SITUATION: (A). MILITARY ACTIVITY MARCH 26 RETURNED TO THE MORMAL POST- TET LEVEL OF 38 VC/ NVA INITIATED INCIDENT RAFTER THE WEEKEND LULL. REPORTED ACTIVITY IN THE HONG NGU- CAI CAI AREA STOPPED ALMOST COMPLETELY. ONLY 3 INCIDENTS OCCURED IN KIEN PHONG, TWO OF THEM ATTACKS ON BRIDGES ALONG INTERPROVINCIAL ROUTE 30 IN KIEN VAN DISTRICT. ELSEWHERE, ACITIVITY INCREASED TO RECENT  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 05069 280834 Z

CEASEFIRE PERIOD LEVELS. DINH TUONG REMAINS QUIET. OVERALL CASUALTIES WERE SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN USUAL. MR4 REPORTED 4 GVN SECURITY OPERATIONS WHICH WERE ATTACKED BY THE VC/ NVA.

(B). THE CHAU DOC SECTOR TOC REPORTS THAT B-52 STRIKES IN CAMBODIA HAVE FORCED THE 1 ST NVA DIVISION TO MOVE ITS HEADQUARTERS FROM O MOUNTAIN ABOUT 15-20 KMS TO THE VICINITY OF VS 5987. THERE IS SOME SPECULATION AT MRIV HEADQUARTERS THAT LAST WEEK'S NVA ASSAULTS IN THE HONG NGU CAI CAI AREA WERE AN ATTEMPT TO GAIN A SANCTUARY IN VIET NAM TO ESCAPE FROM US AIRSTRIKES IN CAMBODIA. HOW IRONIC, IF TRUE.

(C) MAJ. GEN. NAM, CG 7 TH DIVISION REPORTED TO CONGEN OFFICERS THAT THE RECENT CALM IN DINH TUONG RESULTS FROM THE LOSSES VC/ NVA UNITS HAVE SUFFERED IN THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS. HE CLAIMS HIS INTELLIGENCE REPORTS VC/ NVA ARE BREAKING INTO SMALL GROUPS FOR REST, REFITTING AND OCCASIONAL OUTPOST ATTACKS.

3. ICCS: (A) HUNGARIAN ICCS DELEGATES RETURNED TO TRI TON MARCH 26. THE POLES HAVE NOT MADE ANY MOVE TO RETURN TO TRI TON

ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO SHELLING OF THE TOWN SINCE THEY WITHDREW THEIR TEAM MARCH 24.

(B). THE INDONESIAN OFFICER WOUNDED BY A SHOT FIRED BY A DRUNKEN SOLDIER IN CAN THO MARCH 25 HAS BEEN RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL IN SAIGON. THE REGION VII INDONESIAN ICCS DELEGATION DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF THE INCIDENT.

(C). THE REGION VII PRG JMC DELEGATION HAS SUBMITTED A LETTER TO REGION VII ICCS GIVING THE PRG VERSION OF THE MARCH 15 XOAI XIEM PAGODA INCIDENT IN WHICH AN EXPLOSION KILLED 23 AND WOUNDED 88 ETHNIC CAMBODIANS. ACCORDING TO THE PRG THE TERRORIST INCIDENT WAS " THE WORK OF SCOUNDRELS IN THE EMPLOY OF THE SAIGON REGIME." THE GVN ALLEGEDLY STAGED THE INCIDENT TO " DRIVE A WEDGE" BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND THE PRG, SAYS THE LETTER.

4. COMMUNIST ACTIVITY: (A). THE VIET CONG HAVE INSTITUTED A PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LOCAL " REVOLUNTIONARY ADMINISTRATIONS" IN AN XUYEN ANS SOUTHERN VAC LIEU, VC CAMAU PROVINCE ( CAN THO'S FEBRUARY 22 SITREP). THE VC PROVINCE COMMITTEE RECENTLY SENT ORDERS TO ITS DISTRICTS TO ORGANIZE 30- DAY ADMINISTRATION TRAINING COURSES. PEOPLE WITH 3 TO 5 YEARS EDUCATION WILL STUDY HAMLET GOVERNMENT AND THOSE WITH 6 TO 9 YEARS EDUCATION, VILLAGE GOVERNMENT. GRADUATES WILL WORK IN LOCAL REVOLUTIONARY ADMINISTRATIONS. THE TRAINING PROGRAM APPEARS TO BE AN ATTEMPT TO GIVE A BIT MORE SUBSTANCE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS RECENTLY ORGANIZED BY PARTY CADRE AS A PART OF THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 05069 280834 Z

MOVE TOWARD THE " POLITICAL STRUGGLE."

(B). REPORTS FROM CHAU DOC PROVINCE INDICATE THAT THE VC/ NVA ARE CONTINUING THEIR PROPAGANDA EFFORTS TO INDUCE GVN SOLDIERS TO STOP FIGHTING. THE VC/ NVA HAVE BEEN USING LEAFLETS AND LOUD-SPEAKER BROADCASTS TO URGE SOLDIERS IN BA CHUC VILLAGE, TIEN BINH DISTRICT, TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THEIR EFFORTS HAVE PAID ANY DIVIDENDS IN ARVNAF DESERTIONS.

5. REFUGEES: ABOUT 300 CAMBODIANS TURNED UP LAST WEEK IN TAN KHANH HOA VILLAGE, TIEN BINH DISTRICT-- CHAU DOC' S WESTERNMOST VILLAGE. THE GROUP INCLUDED WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND A FEW MEN-- ABOUT 100 OF THE 300 PERSONS WERE WOUNDED. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP SAID THEY WERE FLEEING AIR STRIKED IN CAMBODIA. CHAU DOC SECTOR OFFICERS ARE UNCERTAIN WHETHER THEY ARE REALLY CIVILIAN REFUGEES OR NVA INFILTRATORS. THEY SAY THEY HAVE NOW LOST CONTACT WITH THE GROUP WHICH WAS MOVING EAST TO WEST ON THE VINH TE CANAL IN SAMPANS TOWARD YA TIEN.

6. NATIONALIST ACTIVITY: THE LUONG TRONG TUONG HOA HAO FACTION HAS ORGANIZED A DEMONSTRATION FOR MARCH 29 IN LONG KIEN VILLAGE, CHO MOI DISTRICT, AN GIANG. THE RALLY WAS ORIGINALLY

PLANNED FOR CAN THO, THEN FOR LONG XUYEN, BUT GVN AUTHORITIES HAVE REFUSED PERMISSION FOR A LARGE GATHERING. ABOUT 30,000 HOA HAO FAITHFUL ARE EXPECTED TO COMMEMORATE THE 26 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF HUYNH PHU SO.

7. AMERICAN ACTIVITIES: THE REMAINING AMERICAN MILITARY ADVISORS HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS THIS MORNING TO CLOSE SHOP IN THE DELTA. THE COMMANDING GEN, BG F. BLAZEY, DEPARTS AT 15:00 TODAY AND THE FLAG COMES DOWN TOMORROW. A JUST- JEEPLESS STAFF OFFICER WAS SEEN BARGAINING WITH A CYCLO DRIVER TO PICK UP HIS BAGS. WISN UNQUOTE.  
BUNKER

CONFIDENTIAL

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON05069  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730343/aaaaimrv.tel  
**Line Count:** 149  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <30-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980112  
**Subject:** SITREP FOR MARCH 27, 1973  
**TAGS:** MILI, PINS, PINT  
**To:** EA  
FRANCE  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005